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WKU Student Affairs

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INSIDE

- Top secret

Western is part of a project to increase national computer network security

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- Women at war

Author Helen Benedict discussed her book, “The Lonely Soldier,” which deals with women’s issues in the military

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- Amazing

Country music band Lonestar is coming to the Capital Arts Center on Nov. 30

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- No cheap talk

The Gaines family is giving the School of Journalism and Broadcasting a donation to continue the Gaines lecture series

page 3

UPCOMING

- On Thursday

No Herald. Have a good Thanksgiving.
- Next Tuesday

No Herald. Start working off the turkey.

ONLINE

- Visual Voice

The Herald covers the volleyball team’s championship match and last Saturday’s regional flag football tournament.

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WEATHER


TUESDAY

73°/55°




WEDNESDAY

72°/47°




THURSDAY

49°/29°




FRIDAY

48°/28°



SATURDAY

53°/33°



COLLEGE HEIGHTS

HERALD

Tuesday, November 20, 2007

Volume 83, Number 23

Western Kentucky University

Bowling Green, Kentucky

www.wkuherald.com

Forum

addresses

concealed

carry issue

HOLLY BROWN

Herald reporter

Roughly one quarter of the seats in Downing University Center room 226 were filled Thursday as five panelists discussed whether students should be allowed to carry guns on campus.

The Right to Carry Panel Discussion, sponsored by student assistants from the University Center and Leadership Programs, drew a crowd of about 20 curious students and extra-credit hopefuls.

Senior Nathan Hayes, leader of the Western chapter of Students for Concealed Carry on Campus, said he was contacted by Hopkinsville graduate student Natalie Croney, a student assistant, after the group’s national protest in October.

Members wore empty gun holsters to class for a week during the protest.

SEE

CARRY

PAGE 6

Student

project could

fuel campus

vehicles

DANIELLE BULLOCK

Herald reporter

The University Farm will no longer pay \$3.34 a gallon for diesel fuel after May 2008.

The senior project for a group of mechanical engineering stuentns is to design, build and test a bio-diesel facility by the end of the spring semester.

The bio-diesel fuel created by the facility will be used to run Western’s agricultural vehicles, such as the tractors and off-road vehicles used on the farm.

It might also be used in all campus vehicles that run on diesel fuel, including shuttles, in the future.

Kevin Schmaltz, associate professor of engineering, assigned the project to a group of mechanical engineering students.

SEE

FUEL

PAGE 6

AGRs return

after hazing

incident

MICHELLE DAY

Herald reporter

Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity, which was suspended in February of 2006, was reinstated on Nov. 7 after serving 18 months of the original three-year suspension.

Members will serve probation for the remaining 18 months under conditions, said Charley Pride, director of student activities and organizations.

There are about 17 conditions AGR must meet to remain on campus, said Gene Tice, vice president of student affairs and campus services.

Some conditions include keeping members’ grade point averages up, not violating university policy and attending leadership training sessions, said Howard Bailey, dean of student life.

SEE

AGRs

PAGE 6



PHOTO BY MATT FIELDS-JOHNSON

FDB team member Chris Singleton dodges a grab by Murray State Prime Time player Bobby Geary in the fourth quarter to win the game, which put them into the seeded brackets at the Sixth Annual Battle of the Bluegrass flag football tournament at the Hattie L. Preston Intramural Complex on Saturday.

33

teams.

22

schools.

12

states.

FLAGGED DOWN

RYAN CAREY

& COREY OGBURN

Herald reporters

Although Western’s Homecoming festivities ended last Saturday, the Western Intramural-Recreational Sports Department held its own “welcome back” party this weekend at Hattie L. Preston Intramural Sports Complex.

The Sixth Annual Pontiac ACIS Flag Football Regional Championship went unnoticed to much of the area, but is nationally known to the flag football community.

For Adam McKnight, intramural sports graduate assistant and tournament director, the “Battle of the Bluegrass” always serves as a reason for those who have graduated with a degree in recreation to come together every year.

“It’s a big homecoming,” McKnight said. “Everybody here at this tournament (that’s

on staff) graduated from Western.”

This year’s staff set up men’s, women’s and co-recreational brackets that contained 33 teams from 22 different schools and 12 states.

McKnight and his staff start organizing the tournament during the summer by making phone calls in order to get a bigger staff to help out.

“Usually our staff list isn’t the hardest thing to set,” he said. “You call the same people every year because they’re family. They used to work or go to school here so they’re always anxious to come back.”

Out of the seven Western teams that entered the tournament, only one made it to the championship game.

Paydirt Elite won the Co-Rec division, defeating the Llamas from East Tennessee State.

SEE

FLAGGED

PAGE 8

“It’s a big homecoming. Everybody here

at this tournament (that’s on staff) graduated from Western.”

— Adam McKnight, tournament director —

Kweller makes up for canceled concert

ERIC ISBELL

Herald reporter

Taylor Mill sophomore Dave Vickery had waited months to see musician Ben Kweller.

Vickery had purchased a ticket to see Kweller for September’s Festival of Heroes concert sponsored by the Campus Activities Board.

Because of illness, Kweller canceled his scheduled performance on Sept. 13 for Festival of Heroes.

Festival of Heroes was a charity benefit concert for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital held on Sept. 13 and 14.

“I was visiting my sister with my wife and son, and my nephew gave us a form of the stomach flu that was going around at the time,” Kweller said. “I tried to make it to the airport to fly out the morning of the Festival show, but I kept getting sick.”

Vickery said he was also sick when Kweller was originally scheduled to perform, but would have went to the concert anyway just to see Kweller’s show.

However, Kweller made up for his missed performance. He performed at the Capitol Arts Center last night.



LUKE SHARRETT/HERALD

Indie rocker Ben Kweller of Brooklyn, N.Y., performs at the Capitol Arts Center in downtown Bowling Green last night. While originally slated to perform at the Festival of Heroes in September, Kweller had to reschedule because of illness.

“I told you guys I would be back!” Kweller said to the cheering audience.

Concert goers who had bought a ticket for the first day of the Festival of Heroes concert did not have to pay as long as they had their ticket stub.

The concert goers who did not purchase tickets for Festival for Heroes

SEE

KWELLER

PAGE 6

2

DAY

BY THE NUMBERS

1.36

The weight, in tons, of the world’s largest slab of fudge. It was made by Canada’s Northwest Fudge Factory on Nov. 5, 2004.

186.3

The length, in meters, of the world’s longest line of pizzas. It was created by the Tiziano Shopping Centre Tenants Union in Treviso, Italy on Oct. 28, 2006.

Source: <http://www.guinnessworldrecords.com>

► CORRECTION

Due to a Herald error, two Warren Central High School students’ nationality was misidentified and Fejzulah Avdic’s name was misspelled. Avdic and Mirel Hasanovic are from Bosnia. The Herald regrets the error.

The College Heights Herald corrects all confirmed errors that are brought to reporters’ or editors’ attention. Please call 745-6011 or 745-5044 to report a correction, or e-mail editor@chherald.com.

► NEWS BRIEF

Warren over water shortage

Warren County residents aren’t in danger of running out of water anymore.

The water shortage advisory was lifted on Nov. 15.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released extra water from Barren River Lake to increase availability, according to a press release from the Warren County Water District.

Recent rain has also helped the water supply.

Warren County was under a water shortage alert from Aug. 7 to Oct. 29, when officials lessened the alert to an advisory. Residents have asked to continue conserving water.

— Christina Howerton

WHAT'S

going on

Nov. 20
The Star of Bethlehem
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Hardin Planetarium
Contact: Roger Scott, 745-4044

Nov. 26
Amy Tate Williams Opera Coaching Masterclass
Time: 3 p.m.
Place: fine arts center recital hall
Contact: Paul Hondorp, 745-3751

Cultural Diversity Film Series
Time: 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Place: Glasgow Campus, Room 273
Contact: Barry Kaufkins

Nov. 27
Steel drum Show with Hugh Borde
Tme: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Place: Downing University Center lobby
Contact: Campus Activities Board, 745-2459

Kayak Roll Clinic
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Place: Preston Center
Contact: Luke Bartlett

Star of Bethlehem
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Hardin Planetarium
Contact: Roger Scott, 745-4044

WKU Steelband Concert
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: FAC recital hall
Contact: Mark Berry, 745-375

Nov. 28
Concert: Rachel Carrozziere
Time: noon to 1 p.m.
Place: Java City
Contact: University Libraries, 745-4502

Open House at Schneider Hall
Time: 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Place: Schneider Hall lobby
Contact: Julia Roberts, 745-6323

Wendell Berry, a Reading
Time: 7 p.m.
Place: Garrett Conference Center, Room 103
Contact: English department, 745-3043

Movie Night: “Superbad”
Time: 7 p.m.
Place: Mass Media and Technology Hall auditorium
Contact: CAB 745-2459

WKU Trombone Studio Recital
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: FAC recital hall
Contact: music department, 745-3751

Nov. 29
Duck ‘n’ Dodge 2007
Time: 5 p.m.
Place: Diddle Arena
Contact: Tammie Stenger-Ramsey, 745-6063

Star of Bethlehem
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Hardin Planetarium
Contact: Roger Scott, 745-4044

WKU Collegiate FFA Cornhole Tournament
Time: 8 p.m.
Place: Agricultural Exposition Center
Contact: John Kessell, 745-3151

Nov. 30
Holiday Bazaar
Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Place: DUC
Contact: University Centers and Leadership Programs, 745-5794

Symphonic Band
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Van Meter Auditorium
Contact: Joe Stites, 745-3751

DEC. 1
Bowling Green Christmas Parade
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: Downtown Bowling Green
Contact: BGJCParade@aol.com

Christmas in Kentucky
Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Place: Kentucky Building
Contact: University Libraries, 745-4502

Piano Recital: An Evening of Music by Grieg
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: FAC recital hall
Contact: Donald Speer, 745-3751

DEC. 2
The Star of Bethlehem
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Place: Hardin Planetarium
Contact: Roger Scott, 745-4044

WKU Choirs Holiday Concert
Time: 5 p.m.
Place: St. Joseph Church
Contact: Paul Hondorp

DEC. 3
Film: “Teens and Self Injury”
Time: 7 p.m.
Place: Grise Hall Auditorium
Contact: Brian VanBrunt, 745-3159

The calendar runs every Tuesday. Send your event post request by 3 p.m. Monday to calendar@chherald.com.

► CRIME REPORTS

REPORTS

◆ Brian Meister, McCormack Hall, reported on Nov. 18 an assault.

◆ Daniel Roesener, McCormack, reported on Nov. 18 his iPod stolen from his dorm room. The value of the theft was \$200.

◆ Monet Bullard, Pearce-Ford Tower, reported on Nov. 17 \$40 stolen from her wallet in the PFT lobby.

◆ The athletics department reported on Nov. 17 a BB&T money bag stolen from a chair in the Bemis lot. The value of the theft was \$240.

ARRESTS

◆ Raymond A. Frantz, PFT,

was arrested on Nov. 17 and charged with alcohol intoxication. He was released the same day from Warren County Regional Jail on time served.

◆ Nicole L. Ryan, 1621 Park St., was arrested on Nov. 17 and charged with alcohol intoxication. She was released from Warren County jail the same day on time served.

◆ Nicholas M. Hilger, McCormack, was arrested on Nov. 18 and charged with driving under the influence first offense, possession of alcohol by a minor, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was released from Warren County jail the same day on a \$1,000 unsecured bond.

◆ Joshua S. Lewis, 128 1/2 Woodford Ave., was arrested

on Nov. 15 and charged with careless driving and aggravated driving under the influence first offense. He was being held in Warren County jail as of Monday afternoon. He was sentenced to 10 days, and will be released on Nov. 24.

◆ Cedric J. Donan, 1349 College View Drive, was arrested on Nov. 15 on failure to appear in court. He was released from Warren County jail the same day on a court order.

◆ Charles D. Howard, 2128 Rock Creek Road, was arrested on Nov. 15 and charged with expired vehicle registration plates, fleeing and evading second degree and operating on a suspended operator’s license. He was released from Warren County jail the same day on a court order.

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10 AM

GOOD ONE OWNER HOME FOR SALE! This is an appropriate opening for this special auction. Leonard and Dorothy Deloteus spotted this home while it was under construction in 1951. They bought it and made it their home. Now that Mr. Deloteus has passed away, Dot has moved to Louisville to be near Linda, and has commissioned the Hunt Real Estate Group to offer her beloved home and much of her personal property at public auction. Fifty six years of growth by the city and WKU has placed this property in the midst of one of the most desirable locations available. Just walk across University Blvd. and you are on the Western campus with easy access of all this great institution has to offer, or go less than a block to the 31W ByPass/Nashville Road and unending possibilities. With almost 2400 sq. ft. of living space, this 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 1½ story home with basement offers ample space for a large family or a tremendous investment opportunity. The home features hardwood under carpet throughout, except for the den. There is plenty of room to entertain guests in the 15 x 20 living room with a fireplace and gas logs, or relax in the huge 15 x 25 den as you unwind by gazing through one of the many windows at the large back yard full of mature trees. There are two bedrooms and a tiled bath on each level. The B-Dry Waterproofing System was recently installed in the basement. The HVAC is gas and electric. WKU faculty and staff personnel should take note. Seldom does a home this close to the university become available to the public.

PERSONAL PROPERTY: There will be a large quantity of personal property offered for sale at this auction. Included is a very nice 1940 dining room suite consisting of a table (with pad) which seats up to 12, 6 chairs, buffet, and china cabinet (mahogany?); nice glassware, upholstered furniture, small trestle table and chairs, antique side chair, maple rocker, appliances and hundreds of miscellaneous items. Come prepared to bid and buy some great real estate and lots of personal property.

Directions: University Blvd., ½ block from 31W ByPass

Buyer Premium shall apply.

WDS 11-07

ADMINISTRATION



Pipes Gaines, center, along with his son Steve Gaines, left, talk with President Gary Ransdell after an endowment of \$100,000 was given to the School of Journalism and Broadcasting by the Gaines family.

School of journalism receives donation from Gaines family

HOLLY BROWN
Herald reporter

President Gary Ransdell announced a \$100,000 gift to Western’s School of Journalism and Broadcasting last night. News Publishing, LLC of Bowling Green, the Gaines family business that publishes the Bowling Green Daily News, donated the money to enhance the annual Gaines Lecture Series and promote print journalism at Western, according to a press release. In the press conference to announce the gift, Ransdell said

Western is indebted to a line of Gaines grandfathers, fathers and sons who have supported journalism at Western. “I want you to know how grateful we are for the contributions of the Gaines family, certainly in the tangible contributions, but also for the intangible contributions,” Ransdell said. Pipes Gaines spoke at the press conference as a representative for the family. He quipped that although no member of the Gaines family has ever graduated from Western, the family is bound to the university. “It is hoped that our contribu-

tion will add new luster to what we consider an already distinguished program at Western,” Gaines said. Provost Barbara Burch and Pam Johnson, director of the School of Journalism and Broadcasting, spoke at the press conference. Johnson said she also wanted to thank the Gaines family in particular for their intangible gifts. Every time the journalism department hosts a function, Pipes Gaines is there, she said.

Reach Holly Brown
at news@chherald.com.

ADMINISTRATION

Defense department allots money for lab

HOLLY BROWN
Herald reporter

A collaboration of businesses and organizations to test cyber defenses in a lab created at Western received \$1.3 million in additional funding from the Department of Defense Friday. Western houses the lab that will be used in a homeland defense capacity to strengthen computer networks against attack. Western, along with Mississippi State University, University of Arizona, and Edaptive Computing, Inc., was subcontracted by Electronic Warfare Associates in September. The EWA initially received \$1.6 million. Of that amount, \$269,000 came to Western

to build the CyberDefense Lab in the Innovation and Commercialization Center. “This is a sensitive topic,” said Bruce Kessler, assistant dean of Ogden College of Science and Engineering. “It’s a weak area for us in our nation’s defense. We do well in guarding our borders, but not so well at guarding our networks.” Ed Tivol, vice president of the EWA, said Western’s role in the project is to design and develop the computer laboratory to test software applications for defense against network attacks. “Each entity has a specified goal,” Tivol said. “Western’s goal is creating and implementing the testing environment, and it’s a major job.” “Western’s the glue that binds all these entities together,” said

Phillip Womble, associate physics and astronomy professor. Womble is director of the CyberDefense lab. He said the other entities involved in the consortium are responsible for creating new defenses which will be tested in the lab. The role of the EWA is managing the project and handling classified parts of the project, Tivol said. Three areas of the project which could generate classified information are sources of information, the substance of information and results wielded from testing, he said. The project is expected to continue through 2009 and possibly longer.

Reach Holly Brown
at news@chherald.com.

A Pulitzer Prize winner speaks at Western

Brett Blackledge, a general assignment and special projects reporter for The Birmingham News, spoke in the Mass Media and Technology Hall auditorium last night. His speech, “Corruption Uncovered,” was a part of the fourth annual Gaines Lecture Series. He won the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Journalism and the Associated Press Managing Editors public award for his series of stories about corruption and cronyism in Alabama’s two-year colleges. Go to wkuherald.com to read the full story.

— Emily Ulber

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PEOPLE
POLL

What is your favorite Thanksgiving food, and why?



Elizabeth Gordon
Mayfield junior

“Turkey, because I’m a meat girl. My mom makes it the best, where it’s really moist.”



Wendell Weathers
Morganfield freshman

“Pumpkin pie. My grandpa makes it the best. I don’t know why his is the best; it’s just made better.”



Lynsey Wilson
Somerset freshman

“Sweet potato casserole, because it’s sweet. I like all of the Thanksgiving foods, but that’s my favorite.”



Matt Johnson
Morganfield freshman

“Ham, I guess. I don’t like turkey at all.”

OPINION

Tuesday, November 20, 2007
Western Kentucky University
Bowling Green, Kentucky
www.wkuherald.com

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS SURVEY ABOUT LOSING STUDY SAY AND TURN IT INTO SGA’S MAIN OFFICE (DUG 130.) WE WANT TO KNOW WHERE YOU – THE STUDENTS – STAND ON THIS ISSUE.

Do you use Study Day for studying?	Do you have any exams scheduled for the Friday before exam week?
Will you benefit more from having an extra day of instructing?	Do you think that not having this extra day to study will affect your grades?
Where do you study on Study Day?	

THANK YOU

FOR YOUR TIME AND HELP WITH THIS MATTER. WE ARE TRYING TO SERVE YOU BETTER, AND KNOWING WHERE YOU STAND ON THIS ISSUE HELPS US MAKE DECISIONS.

STAFF EDITORIAL

A day to study, or whatever

There's no study day before finals this year. Although not everyone uses it to study, we still think it's a good thing. What do you think?

As finals week approaches, (Dec. 10–14), students may find one thing missing. The reserved study day, which usually falls on the Friday before exams, will now be another regular class day.

We at the Herald want this day back. The Friday off before finals helps students relax, prepare for the most stressful week of the semester and, for some, actually begin studying.

Now, we understand that some faculty and staff said students weren’t actually using the day to study; instead it was just an early break into the weekend.

Yes, this is true. Some students don’t use the day to study. But what about the students that do use it to study? Should we punish them by removing a full day of studying for them?

Also, the students that use the study day as an early break into the weekend are probably using it as a stress reliever. Finals week is stressful. A three-day weekend of hanging out with friends and being able to sleep until 4 p.m. is a way to clear out minds and prepare ourselves for that final push of the semester.

It has also been stated that classes that meet on Fridays don’t get

enough instruction time, since most breaks during the school year are at the end of the week. Taking a day off for a study day means yet another day of instruction a professor can’t give.

This is true and unfortunate. However, we feel the stress release of the Friday study day outweighs the lost day of instruction. We don’t think one more day of instruction is going to make or break a student’s education at Western.

So, in the hopes that we can get our study day back, SGA put an ad in the Nov. 15 issue of the Herald with a survey to get students' opinions on the study day. Please take the time to fill it out. Come up to the Herald office and get a copy of paper with the survey or use the copy reprinted above.

Also, SGA has a Facebook group, “Study Day - Yay or Nay” where you can fill out the survey.

Please take the time and initiative to get back what is ours — our beloved study day.

This editorial represents the majority opinion of the Herald's 11-member editorial board.

COLLEGE HEIGHTS
HERALD

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editor-in-chief
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CONTACT

Advertising 745-2653
advertising@chonline.com
News Desk 745-6011
news@chherald.com
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SUBMISSIONS

The Herald encourages readers to write letters and commentaries on topics of public interest. **Here are a few guidelines:**

1. Letters should not exceed 250 words, and commentaries should be 700-800 words.
2. Originality counts. Please don’t submit plagiarized work.
3. For verification, letters and commentaries MUST include your name, phone number, home town and classification or title.
4. Letters may not run in every edition due to space.
5. The Herald reserves the right to edit all letters for style, grammar, length and clarity. The Herald does NOT print libelous submissions.

DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in this newspaper DO NOT reflect those of Western’s employees or of its administration.

COMMENTARY

Underwear: What you say about yourself, underneath it all



AMBER COULTER
Herald news editor

I’m not a very good dresser. I can often be found in line at

Java City wearing some tattered jeans and my ex-boyfriend’s Spawn T-shirt.

My wardrobe only expands on Christmas and birthdays--unless we’re talking about my underwear stash.

I scored a handful of dainty drawers at the mall last weekend, and I have since been expressing myself at the sub-trouser level.

I even brought a friend to assist me in the all-important

expansion of my intimates image. A panty consultant can be a lifesaver when pouring over mounds and mountains of bikini bottoms and briefs.

Cotton, silk, elastic, lace, solids, stripes, patterns and polka dots — I can be whoever I want to be, even if I never mention my unmentionables to anyone. So can you.

This is my call to action. Express yourself by pampering your fanny.

After all, beauty comes from the inside ... of your pants.

I want to know that if I should drop my pants at this moment, the world would know a little bit more about me.

My current selection of red and gray striped cotton says that today I feel sporty and free.

No one else might know why I want to bounce and trounce about the office, but it really all comes down to the choices I made this morning.

I set the tone for my mood when I stepped out of the shower and slipped on my first layer of clothing.

What are your skivvies saying about you?

Choose wisely when rifling through your lingerie. It reflects who you are underneath it all.

The opinions expressed in this commentary do not reflect those of the Herald or the university.

Annie's
OUTLOOK

A cartoon strip by Annie Erskine



PREVIEW

With fiddles and twang, Lonestar to bring fresh sound to Capitol Arts

HEATHER RYAN
Herald reporter

The country band Lonestar, best known for the hit song “Amazed,” will perform at the Capitol Arts Center at 7:30 p.m., on Friday, Nov. 3. The group will play a collection of past hits and new music from their latest album, “My Christmas List,” guitarist Michael Britt said.

“My Christmas List” can be purchased at Cracker Barrel or at www.crackerbarrel.com.

Tickets for the concert can be purchased by phone by calling 782-ARTS or by going to the Capitol Arts Center on South Main Street. They are \$35 for the main floor and \$30 for the balcony. There is also a \$3 Capitol Preservation fee per

transaction, said Dawn Wesley, managing director of the Capitol Arts Alliance.

This fee is used to build up the Alliance’s endowment fund for renovations and upkeep, Wesley said.

There are still many tickets available, she said.

This will be the first time the 15-year-old Nashville-based band will play in Bowling Green.

It is also the band’s first tour with its new singer, Cody Collins, Britt said.

Collins brings an “edgy, kinda rockin’ fresh” sound to the band, he said; However, Britt assures Lonestar still maintains its original sound.

The former singer, Richie McDonald, left the band earlier this year to pursue solo projects, Britt said.

Morganfield junior Travis Hancock said he thinks Lonestar will put on a good show.

Hancock said he’s always liked Lonestar’s sound.

Wesley said the Alliance is “excited about bringing a big name to the Capitol.” She said they hope this can open up more opportunities for more well-known names to come to Bowling Green.

“They’ve been a hot band recently,” she said. “We hope the college gets word of Lonestar being here.”

Wesley said she hopes this is only the beginning of the younger crowd coming to the Capitol Arts Center.

Reach Heather Ryan
at diversions@chherald.com.

NEWS BRIEFS

Condemnation proceedings seek to upstart further Western construction

Condemnation proceedings that Western brought against the property owner of 1672 Normal Street are continuing.

A commission has been selected to appraise the property, and it could be ready to give a recommendation to a judge this week, General Counsel Deborah Wilkins said.

The case will be settled if both parties accept the price recommended for the property. If not, it will go to court and a jury will decide.

Western chose to go through with condemnation proceedings in hopes of starting construction on the new College of Education and Behavioral Sciences building in February or March.

The disputed property is the last that Western needs to obtain before proceeding with construction.

Western officials say they’ve been working with the property owner, Howard B. Clark Jr. of

Bowling Green, since December and haven’t agreed on a price.

The property was appraised at \$152,000, and Western offered to pay \$162,000.

By law, Western can only offer 10 percent more than the appraised price for a property, officials said. That would be \$167,200.

State law requires that Western make a good faith effort to purchase the property, Wilkins said.

Wilkins said Western might still reach an agreement outside of court with Clark to purchase the property.

Clark previously told the Herald that he doesn’t think Western has been fair to him or his family.

Clark said he was initially against selling the property, but he and his family decided they could come to some sort of agreement because Western wanted it.

He said appraisers have been appraising the property as a residential home, not as an income-producing property. It

is currently being used as a rental property.

This is the first time Western has claimed eminent domain when trying to obtain property.

— Susie Laun

SKyTeach receives \$2.4 million grant

Western will receive a \$2.4 million grant for its program SKyTeach.

The program, modeled after a University of Texas at Austin program called UTeach, aims to improve teacher education in math and science, according to a press release.

The SKyTeach program is meant to address this region’s need for math and science teachers, President Gary Ransdell said in a press release.

The award comes from the National Math and Science Initiative, which received funds from ExxonMobil, according to the release.

— Holly Brown

BEYOND THE HILL



ALEX SLITZ/HERALD

Helen Benedict, author of “The Lonely Soldier: Women at War in Iraq,” spoke in Grise Hall Auditorium on Thursday night. Benedict spoke on the issue of sexual assault and sexism toward women in the military.

Author says women face sexism, harassment in military careers

LAUREL WILSON
Herald reporter

Helen Benedict wants to raise awareness about problems facing women in the military.

She talked about her upcoming book, “The Lonely Soldier: Women at War in Iraq,” on Thursday.

Military representatives said they’ve been working to decrease the problems Benedict highlighted.

Benedict, who teaches journalism at Columbia University, interviewed 40 women who fought in Iraq. She said that more women have fought in Iraq than any other war in history and women make up 11 percent of the soldiers in Iraq.

She said it isn’t easy for women in the military, even with a growing number.

“It doesn’t mean that women in the military aren’t still isolated,” she said.

They face harassment, demeaning comments and rape, she said.

A military woman she talked with was told not to go anywhere alone because instances of rape were high, she said.

She said several women in the military have told her that they carry a knife to protect themselves from men they are

serving with.

Benedict said women are left with lasting effects of their treatment, even after they leave the military.

“Day in and day out, this really undermines your ability to function,” she said.

She said the harassment that women face can lead to post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety issues and panic attacks.

Benedict’s interest in violence against women began after working in a women’s prison in England and finding out that 70 percent of the women there had been sexually assaulted.

She became involved in the military aspect of violence against women after attending a meeting of veterans from the Iraq war and meeting women who said nobody would listen to their stories.

“I want to be a vehicle for those stories,” she said.

She said that she’s putting pressure on the military to address the problem by telling those stories.

The Kentucky National Guard requires sexual harassment training, said Col. Phil Miller, a public affairs spokesman. The organization keeps records to make sure that all members have passed the training.

The Army has a sexual assault prevention program and has advocates in each unit to whom soldiers of both sexes can report offenses, said Major Anne Edgecomb, an Army media relations spokeswoman.

Edgecomb said the Army is not without sexual offense issues because society still has such issues, but prevention and response to them are the best they have ever been.

“Women have not been part of the Army forever, so it’s one of those things that we keep getting better at,” she said.

Benedict said she was used to facing opposition, but she has done solid research.

“I don’t think I’m making sweeping over-generalizations,” she said.

Louisville freshman Chelsea Moulden, who attended the lecture, said she acknowledged both sides of the issue.

“I can see where it’s a problem, but is it a prevalent problem?” she said.

Albany freshman Kate Parrish said she can see both sides of the debate, and wasn’t sure which side is right.

Amber Coulter contributed to this article.

Reach the reporters
at news@chherald.com.

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SCOTT MCINTYRE/HERALD

Louisville senior Nathan Hayes, left, campus leader of Students for Concealed Carry on Campus, demonstrates to graduate assistant Lee Anderson how easily the shootings at Virginia Tech were carried out and how much time the police took to take care of the situation.

CARRY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The SCCC is a national student group which formed in response to the Virginia Tech shooting in April. Members attempt to persuade college and university administrators to allow licensed concealed weapons on campus.

“The whole idea of concealed carry on campus is a new idea,” Hayes said.

Members are generally licensed carriers who already wear concealed weapons elsewhere in the community but are prohibited from bringing them to campus by schools’ policies, Hayes said.

To address the issue, campus administrators met with Hayes and Owensboro graduate assistant Lee Anderson, a concealed carry advocate, for as a discussion of positions.

Gene Tice, vice president for student affairs and campus services, began the discussion. “I, personally, have a very strong feeling that guns have no place on campus, neither legal nor illegal,” Tice said. “The only people I want on campus with guns are police.”

He drew on his experience with the military, saying that licensed concealed weapons carriers are not equipped with the training necessary to react properly in an emotionally charged situation such as a

shooting.

“As long as I’m here, I will very clearly state that this is not a place for guns,” Tice said.

Howard Bailey, dean of student life, said that as chief disciplinary officer, he is inclined to agree with Tice.

“We want to make sure that we’re not in a place where we’re trying to regulate who has weapons and who doesn’t,” Bailey said.

Bailey said experts he has spoken with about the Virginia Tech shooting overwhelming agreed that the situation would have been worse if students had been present with concealed guns.

General Counsel Deborah Wilkins said that, although she is a licensed concealed weapon carrier, she agrees students should not be allowed to carry concealed weapons on campus.

Western’s policy banning weapons on campus is an example of a rule meant to address a few which affects many, she said.

Hayes said police officers do not have a duty to protect citizens.

“The police at Virginia Tech did not help in any way because 31 individuals were killed after the police arrived,” he said.

Tice said he disagreed that police aren’t obligated to protect citizens, pointing out that officers train constantly to respond to crises and in the Virginia Tech shooting, police stopped the assailant while he still had half of his ammunition.

Anderson pointed out specific incidents of when licensed concealed carriers have used their weapons to stop shooters, such as the Appalachian Law School shooting and the Pearl High School shooting.

In both cases, the assailant was thwarted by citizens with guns.

“Think of what you’re doing when you call 911,” Anderson

said. “What you’re asking for is the guy with the gun, so why not have it there already?”

After the forum, Croney said although the crowd was sparse, the discussion brought out a lot of important information.

“I think if more people were there, it would have been a more diverse group of questions asked to the panel,” she said.

Hayes said he plans to advertise future forums himself to bring larger crowds and more attention to the issue.

Reach Holly Brown at news@chherald.com.

AGRs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The fraternity will be subject to another sanction if members don’t adhere to probation guidelines.

The punishment would depend on the situation, Bailey said.

The fraternity was investigated by Western officials and the AGR National Board of Directors after police found a goat in the basement of the AGR house on Feb. 16, 2006.

The fraternity chapter was suspended in February 2006 for alcohol violations, psychological hazing and nudity during its initiation night.

The national AGR organization suspended the chapter indefinitely and expelled

the involved members.

A member told police the goat was used to convince pledges they were going to have sex with it, but there was no evidence of actual sex with the goat, the Herald previously reported.

Tice said he decided to reinstate the chapter because they have taken positive steps to correct and strengthen the organization, and the alumni are involved in supervising the members’ actions.

The group has emphasized academics and became more financially responsible, he said.

Bailey recommended to Tice that the AGRs be reinstated.

Bailey said they had seen positive progress from the members, which included paying off debt.

“...when you sit down with an organization that is in jeopardy, you have to look at all the weaknesses and correct those before you put them on active role.”

— Howard Bailey
Dean of Student Life

FUEL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Jack Rudolph, head of the agriculture department, presented the idea for the facility and pairing the agricultural department and the mechanical engineering department.

Currently, the farm uses about 6,200 gallons of diesel fuel a year, Rudolph said.

The project will include the collection of used vegetable oil from Garret food court, the Fresh Food Company and the Downing University Center food court. The oil will be converted into bio-diesel fuel.

Western is providing containers at those locations, said Justin Morris, a student

involved in the project. Once a week, they’ll be picked up and taken to the facility.

The project is set to be complete by May 2008. Then the collection of mass quantities of waste oil will begin, and the mechanical engineering department will start producing bio-diesel fuel.

Upon the completion of the project, Western will produce about 1,000 gallons of bio-diesel fuel per month for less than \$2 a gallon.

Western is able to create the fuel for so little money because the mechanical engineering department is collecting the waste vegetable oil for free.

The project is funded by Ogden College. The project will cost the college about \$25,000.

Despite the cost, the project will be saving Western thousands of dollars, Schmatz

“... when you sit down with an organization that is in jeopardy, you have to look at all the weaknesses and correct those before you put them on active role,” Bailey said.

Bailey said he also recommended reinstating the AGRs because the organization is primarily made up of agriculture majors.

“They will never be a large group,” he said. “They had a small nucleus left, and we thought this would be strategically the proper time to allow them to prepare for pledges next year.”

National AGR supports Western’s decision, said Thaddeus Koenigsfeld, director of chapter development. The chapter fulfilled the requirements for reinstatement.

Expelled members can reapply for membership in the fraternity, but none have done so yet, Koenigsfeld said.

Christina Howerton contributed to this story.

Reach the reporters at news@chherald.com.

KWELLER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

paid the equal cost as the Festival’s ticket prices, the \$15 for Western students and \$20 for general admission.

The proceeds are going to pay for the cost of the lights and covering the expense of running the theater for the concert.

Azurdee Garland, coordinator of student activities, said Kweller agreed to play the show for those who had purchased tickets for the festival.

“There were students who

drove down from places as far away as northern Illinois, and had to drive six-and-a-half hours back when they found out that Kweller was not here” she said.

Kweller played a one-man show to a crowd of about 200 people. Local band Will and Nate, comprised of Western students, was the opening act.

Some fans waited hours in line to see Kweller perform.

Franklin sophomore Chip Gillock stood outside the Capitol Arts Center since 4:30 p.m. to ensure he got a good seat for Kweller’s concert.

He was one of the first five people in line for the concert.

He said that the wait wasn’t that bad except when he had to use the bathroom.

Louisville junior and member of Will and Nate Nate Morguelan said that meeting and opening for Kweller was one of the most amazing experiences of his life.

“Ben is one of the coolest people I’ve ever met,” he said. “He’s amazingly personable, funny, clever and an all-around great musician and the concert was absolutely amazing. I couldn’t have asked for more.”

Reach Eric Isbell at diversions@chherald.com.

► NEWS BRIEFS

Student reports assault

A Western student reported being assaulted by three males at the corner of 14th Avenue and Kentucky Street Sunday night.

The student said he was walking toward McCormack Hall around 7:15 p.m. on Sunday when a vehicle stopped

behind him. The student said three men exited the vehicle, assaulted him and stole his cell phone.

The student was transported to The Medical Center for treatment. He was not admitted.

Western police said students and staff should use appropriate precautions when walking in

the area of the assault.

There is currently no description on the vehicle or the attackers.

Western police requests that any information regarding this incident be reported to them as soon as possible at 745-2548.

— Chris Byrne



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WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Freshman guitarist rivals professional musicians

EMILY ULBER
Herald reporter

Louisville freshman Lauren Conkin has a lot of fans. “(Her music) is absolutely flawless — that pretty much defines it,” Goshen freshman Michael Conner said. “I’m a groupie.”

Conkin writes, performs and records her own music, which she describes as contemporary easy listening. She said some of her favorite artists are Regina Spektor and Joshua James.

Conkin said a lot of her inspiration comes from relationships that didn’t work out, or other emotions people can relate to.

Last week, she performed live on Revolution 91.7, and she recorded music Saturday with WWHR production director Max Meiners, a senior from Louisville.

“I’ve worked with a number of different singers and songwriters before,” Meiners said. “She was the most professional artist I’ve ever met.”

Meiners said that Conkin had very few complaints while recording and was very easy to please.

“She was just ready to go, one song right after another,” he said. “There was hardly any downtime. She put a lot of trust in me.”

Conner was with Conkin in the WWHR studio when she was recording.

“She’s one of the most gifted and talented people I’ve ever met,” Conner said. “She’s absolutely amazing.”

Franklin freshman Nikki Jensen met Conkin through “jam sessions” with friends.

“I play bass, and I met her through a friend who plays the drums,” Jensen said. “We all hung out and jammed a little. She would sing her songs and tell me the chords, and I would play the bass line.”

Jensen said she heard Conkin playing live on the radio.

“I was on the phone with someone and they heard her playing on the radio in the background,” Jensen said. “The person I was talking to thought she was an actual CD.”

Conkin began taking guitar lessons when she was a freshman in high school, and began writing her own music when she was a junior.

She said that she was approached by a Louisville band, Chatfield, on MySpace. The band wanted her to open for them at an upcoming show

at a Starbucks in Louisville.

“I was really nervous about it,” Conkin said. “Before that, I hadn’t even played for my mom.”

Since then, Conkin has played several other shows, including one at Mugshotz.

“It’s really cool listening to yourself play,” Conkin said. “I like to get a reaction out of people.”

Conkin’s performance at Mugshotz was the first time Meiners heard her play.

“I just sat there and listened, and my jaw dropped,” Meiners said.

Conkin said that she would love to make a career out of music but doesn’t plan on doing anything school-related with it.

“I think that if I took all the required, structured classes for a music major I would lose interest in it,” Conkin said. “I love the freedom of just playing.”

Jensen said that she believed Conkin had the potential to go far in the music world.

“I look forward to seeing her on the shelves of Best Buy someday,” Jensen said.

Reach Emily Ulber
at diversions@cherald.com.



JAKE STEVENS/HERALD

Lauren Conkin

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BREAKER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Following the match, Hudson said Gideon was in tears, unable to lift her arm above her head.

Friday she played again in Western's 3-1 win over Denver. Hudson came out of the locker room following the match to say that Gideon was in tears again and called her "highly doubtful" for Saturday's final match.

But the team trainer, Beth Varvil, iced Gideon's shoulder every two hours through Friday night.

"The kid knows what time it is," Hudson said of Gideon. "... We just did everything we could to get her ready and when I asked her (Saturday) about it, there was no doubt in

that kid's mind that she was going to give it a shot. And where it came from is inside that big heart of hers."

She played again Saturday. The Lady Toppers had three game points in each of the first two games, but couldn't finish off the Blue Raiders.

"We just couldn't catch a break," Hudson said. "Don't know why, don't always have an answer I guess. What more can I ask of my team than the effort they gave today, and in this whole tournament for that matter."

Junior middle hitter Megan Argabright led the Lady Toppers with 21 kills on Saturday before being named part of the all-tournament team.

"Games one and two we just left everything on the line, everything we possibly had" Argabright said. "It just came

down to the last ball dropping, I guess."

Sophomore outside hitter Aquila Orr, who was also named part of the all-tournament team, said it was Gideon who led the team all weekend.

"Obviously, leaving it all out there is all (Gideon) could do," Orr said. "Everything she had was everything she was giving. I think we all kind of learned from her and all look up to her and admire her for everything she put in."

Gideon is the lone senior on the team.

The Lady Toppers return everyone else and add three incoming freshman next year.

Western will wait until Nov. 25 to see if they earned an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Reach Andrew Robinson
at sports@chherald.com.



RYAN STONE/HERALD

Senior Elizabeth Peterson competes in the women's 200-yard freestyle during this weekend's Hilltopper invitational. The women's team defeated both the University of Missouri-Rolla and the University of Evansville.

RECORDS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Penhale wasn't the only Western swimmer to break records this weekend. Freshman Claire Donahue broke her own pool record in the 100-yard butterfly, and sophomore Kathryn Sutton also broke her own pool record in the 400-yard indi-

vidual medley. Freshman Greg Gerum broke pool records in both the 200-yard individual medley and as a part of the 800-yard freestyle relay team.

Marchionda said before the meet that his goal for the weekend was to find a "third event" for each of his swimmers. Third events give a team a better opportunity to gain points in a meet, increasing its chances of winning.

"We've had a couple surprises in the third events," Marchionda said. "I see every race as an opportunity to get better, and they've done really well."

The Toppers' and Lady Toppers' next meet will be on Dec. 1 and 2 at the UALR Invite in Little Rock, Ark.

Reach Sarah Hyman
at sports@chherald.com.

FLAGGED

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Duck Squad, another team from East Tennessee, took the runner-up position in the men's division behind the Eastern Kentucky G-Unit Assassins in a 27-25 loss.

"This tournament is as big as a national tournament and run as well," said Gary Carver, ETSU graduate student and captain of the Duck Squad.

The Vanderbilt WNFL defeated the West Florida Next-2-None in the finals of the women's division.

The top two teams in each division won a paid invitation to the Pontiac ACIS Flag Football National Championship as well as a travel stipend.

Because of the close-knit group that is recreational sports, people from the program tend to want to

help each other out as much as possible, McKnight said.

Many of the tournament directors from schools like West Florida, Oklahoma State, and Middle Tennessee State came this weekend to help out with the tournament at Western.

Mike Collins, the Director of Officials from Florida State, completed his graduate work at Western.

"I love this university and I love this tournament," Collins said. "It feels like I came back home. This place gets into you and you feel like you never want to leave. It's very much a southern hospitality here."

Collins' main responsibility was directing the officials, who traveled from different schools around the region as well.

Every official was competing for one of four bids to referee in the national tournament in New Orleans.

Collins leads a committee of

former all-American flag football officials that makes the final decision on who receives the bids.

Craig Menkes, a junior from University of Central Florida, was one of the officials chosen to represent this region in Nationals.

"People look at refs as the negative part of sports and how much they hate officials," Menkes said. "But you come out here and joke around with the players and have fun."

Throughout the reunion, long-time friends shared laughs, officials improved and many teams learned a great deal about the ACIS Flag Football Regional Championship.

The champions and runners-up will travel to New Orleans December 28-31 to compete in the Pontiac ACIS Flag Football National Championship.

Reach the reporters
at sports@chherald.com

SPORTS BRIEF

Davies named third-team Academic All-America

Senior defender Chris Davies was named, by ESPN The Magazine, to the third-team Academic All-America team.

Along with three academic awards over the past two seasons, Davies was a member of the Missouri Valley Conference Scholar-Athlete Team and was named the outstanding chemistry student last year at Western.

The chemistry major and

math minor played in 13 contests this season earning his first start on senior night against Berea.

Davies tallied his second goal of the year in the 79th minute en route to a 3-0 Topper victory against the Mountaineers. He then added an assist in the 43rd minute to Jake Schuler in the 5-1 victory at Mercer. Davies scored the lone goal for the Hilltoppers against High Point on Sept. 21.

The Frankfort native also helped a defense shut out four

opponents on the year.

Voting was conducted among members of the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). To be eligible for Academic Awards, the student-athlete has to be at least a sophomore that starts or is a key reserve; however, first-year transfers cannot be nominated. Also, participants must have a minimum 3.2 cumulative grade-point average.

— WKU Athletics



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RING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

For senior wide receiver Curtis Hamilton and senior placekicker Chris James, the night was even more special because both players broke team records in the final home contest of their careers.

Hamilton broke the career receiving record with 2,251 yards and James broke the career scoring record with 290 points.

Hamilton caught seven passes for 134 yards and two touchdowns, with 101 of those yards in the first quarter. He also added a 64-yard punt return for a touchdown.

“This is a great group of seniors that have really embraced this season and what is going on with our program,” coach David Elson said. “I’m really proud of the way they’ve led this football team, and it was fun to see them out (there Saturday).”

Western balanced its attack by gaining 192 yards through the air and 190 on the ground en route to 382 total yards of offense.

Sophomore running back Tyrell Hayden collected a career-high 151 yards and a touchdown. In doing so, he surpassed the

1,000-yard mark on the season.

“Rushing for 1,000 yards was a big accomplishment,” Hayden said in a press conference Monday. “Not only for me but for the offensive linemen, because every day they work hard in practice and they’ve just got a mentality every Saturday to dominate the line of scrimmage.”

Junior defensive lineman Dan Cline said in a press conference Monday that the game against North Texas is, in a way, the Toppers bowl game.

“It’s the end of the year,” he said. “We’re going halfway around the country away to a new stadium against a (Football Bowl Subdivision) opponent, and we’re kind of treating it like that.”

Western is ineligible for the postseason since this is a transitional year, so the Toppers will play their last game of 2007 on Saturday.

North Texas will come into the game on a four-game losing streak on its Senior Night.

“We’ve got a tough opponent coming up,” Cline said. “Even though their 1-9 on paper, they’ve lost several close games.”

Reach Will Perkins
at sports@chherald.com.

REBOUND

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Senior forward Crystal Kelly came back strong after her seven-point performance in a 78-59 loss at Notre Dame on Nov. 13, scoring 27 points and grabbing nine rebounds.

“I can honestly say (the Notre Dame game) was probably my worst game ever,” Kelly said. “But it’s nice to bounce back. I know the better I play, the better it helps the team.”

Other Lady Toppers scoring in double figures were junior forward Dominique Duck and freshman forward Whitney Ballinger, who each scored 11 points.

For Evansville (1-2), the only player who scored over ten points was sophomore guard Amy Gallagher, who had 13 in the loss.

Western’s next game is against Louisiana Tech, a big rival, in the 25th Annual BB&T Classic.

This will be the first regular season game for the Lady Techsters, who are coming off a 71-66 exhibition victory over the Louisiana Tech alumni team.

Louisiana Tech lost all its starters from last year’s squad,

which went 17-13 and tied for first in the Western Athletic Conference.

The Lady Techsters and the Lady Toppers have a long history. Louisiana Tech was a member of the Sun Belt Conference from 1991-2001.

During those ten years, Western finished behind the Lady Techsters in the conference standings eight times, sharing the regular season title the other two years.

In the Sun Belt championships, the two teams met seven times in the finals, with the Lady Toppers winning two of the seven games.

Western has won the past three contests between the teams. They last met on Nov. 11, 2006, with Western winning 73-60.

“It’s a great rivalry, and they are just a great program and a great basketball team,” Cowles said. “When you look at the history of Louisiana Tech women’s basketball, I think you automatically have to respect that.”

The Lady Toppers play the Lady Techsters at 7 p.m. tonight at E.A. Diddle Arena.

Reach Chris Acree
at sports@chherald.com

DEFENSIVE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Guard play continued to be a major strength; seniors Courtney Lee and Tyrone Brazelton paced the team in scoring for the second straight game with 18 and 17 points, respectively.

Another boost for the Toppers was the return of sophomore forward Jeremy Evans, who threw a block party of sorts in his first game of the season following an ankle injury that sidelined him for the first two contests.

Evans blocked a game-high four shots and had eight points, five rebounds and two assists.

The forward unit rebounded from a lackluster performance against Kentucky Wesleyan with freshman D.J. Magley and senior Boris Siakam combining for 12 points and four rebounds. Senior Mike Walker posted a game-high seven boards and freshman forward Steffphon Pettigrew scored a career-high 10 points.

“It was another great effort from our team tonight in terms of contribution from a lot of guys,” coach Darrin Horn said. “I think our defense is what keyed our runs

and helped us stretch our lead.”

The forwards still have some health issues – junior Japeth Aguilar was sidelined for the game with a sprained foot. Horn said they hope to have him back next week. Freshman B.J. Frazier and junior Matt Maresca remained out of uniform because of foot and back injuries.

Western will now set out for their first road game of the season against no.14 Gonzaga tomorrow night in the Carrs/Safeway Great Alaska Shootout beginning Thursday in Anchorage, Alaska.

“I think (Gonzaga) is ultra-talented,” Horn said. “I think offensively in terms of execution and understanding the game and being difficult to play against, they’re probably about as good as there is in the country.”

Gonzaga coach Mark Few said when he heard the pairings for the shootout, he knew playing Western would be a challenge.

The game tips off at 10:30 p.m. on Thursday and can be seen on ESPNU.

Andrew Robinson also contributed to this story.

Reach David Harten
at sports@chherald.com

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► Thursday

Men’s basketball vs. Gonzaga at the Great Alaska Shootout, Anchorage, Alaska, 10:30 p.m.

► Friday

Women’s basketball vs. Southern Illinois at George Washington Thanksgiving Classic, Washington D.C., 2 p.m.

Men’s basketball vs. Alaska- Anchorage or Texas Tech at the Great Alaska Shootout, Anchorage, Alaska, TBA

► Saturday

Football at North Texas, 3 p.m.

Women’s basketball vs. George Washington at George Washington Thanksgiving Classic, Washington D.C., 4:30 p.m.

Men’s basketball vs. TBA at the Great Alaskan Shootout, Anchorage, Alaska, TBA

► SPORTS BRIEF

Lady Topper basketball inks four

Western women’s basketball coach Mary Taylor Cowles announced on Friday the signing of four high school players to National Letters of Intent during the early signing period. A pair of high school teammates and two standouts from Tennessee are all set to join the Lady Toppers beginning in the 2008-09 season.

Vanessa Obafemi — a 5-foot-10 forward — and 6-foot-2 center Jasmine Johnson will both continue their careers together at Western following one final season at DeSoto High School in DeSoto, Texas. Caitlin House will join the Lady Toppers from Briarcrest Christian in Memphis and LaTeria Owens will make her way north from Columbia Central High School in Columbia.

Obafemi and Johnson both helped lead DHS to a 36-3 record last season. Obafemi dropped in 279 points, pulled down 189 rebounds and picked up 60 steals in that campaign. Johnson finished the year with 205 points, 297 rebounds and 65 blocked shots.

Owens will also add depth in the front court as she joins the Lady Topper program after averaging 14 points and 13 rebounds per game last season at Columbia Central.

House will also head north to play her college ball after finishing up a prep career at Briarcrest Christian. She averaged 15 points per game last season.

— WKU Athletics

CONTACT

Sports Editor
DAVID HARTEN:
sports@chherald.com
Photo Editor
EVAN SISLEY:
photo@chherald.com

SPORTS

VOLLEYBALL



CODY DUTY/HERALD

Senior Jenna Gideon spikes a ball past New Orleans middle hitters. The Lady Toppers won their first two matches of the Sun Belt Conference Tournament before falling to Middle Tennessee in the title game. Gideon had nine kills and a .471 hitting percentage for the tournament.

Mile high heart breaker

ANDREW ROBINSON
Herald reporter

DENVER, Colo. — Two-thirds of the way through game three in Western’s 3-0 (34-32, 34-32, 30-20) loss to Middle Tennessee State in the Sun Belt Tournament championship Saturday, senior middle hitter Jenna Gideon went up for her 18th kill attempt of the match.

It would be her last. She hit it, and immediately she looked to be in pain. The tears began flowing. Coach Travis Hudson stood up from the bench and motioned Gideon to come over. Sophomore Abbie Siljendahl came in for Gideon as the Western crowd saluted Gideon and her efforts during last three days. Hudson and Gideon hugged and she

walked down to the end of the bench. “Travis told me he was proud of me,” Gideon said. “I didn’t feel the pain until that one swing.” She injured her right shoulder on Oct. 20 at New Orleans. The three days Western spent in Denver held unexpected turns for Gideon. “All that kid did was show the pride that hopefully every kid develops in this program before they leave,” Hudson said. Thursday the Lady Toppers beat New Orleans 3-1. Hudson said he would have liked to hold Gideon out for the match. He couldn’t. Western was down 1-0 early in the match and Gideon stepped in finishing with nine kills in the final three games.

SEE BREAKER, PAGE 8

SWIMMING & DIVING

Toppers break records at invitational

SARAH HYMAN
Herald reporter

Hip-Hop music blared from the speakers on Sunday afternoon. Western fan Stanley “Soul Train” Jefferson, clad in a red Speedo, danced on the pool deck. Family and friends greeted each other as they gathered on the second-floor observatory. And in the middle of it all, the Western swim team warmed up, hoping to break even more school records before the day ended.

They didn’t have to wait long. On the final day of the Hilltopper Invitational at Bill Powell Natatorium,

sophomore Sean Penhale swam a 15:28.12 1650-yard freestyle in the second race of the day to break his own pool record. “This just restates to me that I’m on the right track,” Penhale said. The race capped off a weekend in which the Toppers and Lady Toppers combined to break nine pool records and two school records. The Toppers (6-0) won the meet with 1,043.50 points. Missouri-Rolla came in second with 555 points. The Lady Toppers (5-1) won in similar fashion, tallying 1,051 points. The closest competitor was Evansville coming in a

second with 486 points. “Last year, we broke eight records, but we backed off a little bit before this meet,” coach Bruce Marchionda said. “This year we did not. That’s more impressive, in my opinion.” Penhale was especially impressive, breaking the pool record for the 500-yard freestyle on Friday in 4:32.04. On Saturday, he took the pool record for the 400-yard individual medley with a time of 4:01.49, also contributing to the record-breaking 800-yard freestyle relay team.

SEE RECORDS, PAGE 8

FOOTBALL

Ring Masters: Seventh win assures Western of winning record, rings

WILL PERKINS
Herald reporter

Call the jeweler. Western secured its 11th consecutive winning season with its 52-12 home-victory over Morehead State Saturday evening. The players will receive rings for attaining their goal of at least seven victories in their first season as a transitional Football Bowl Subdivision team. But the Toppers (7-4) say they are not content. Their next goal: to go 2-1 in Sun Belt Conference play.

They will get that chance when they kickoff at 3 p.m. Saturday at North Texas (1-9, 1-5 SBC). Seventeen seniors competed in their last game at Houchens Industries-L.T. Smith Stadium Saturday. Western scored seven touchdowns on its way to victory against the Eagles (7-4) on Senior Night on Saturday.

SEE RING, PAGE 9



ALEX SLITZ/HERALD

Western players pour a cooler of water over coach David Elson’s head on Saturday night in celebration of their 52-12 defeat of Morehead State. Morehead was the team’s last home game. The Toppers will play at North Texas on Saturday.

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WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Western, Marshall rebound for win

CHRIS ACREE
Herald reporter

Thirteen isn’t considered a lucky number, but it was fine for senior forward Charlotte Marshall. The fifth-year senior put up 13 points and 13 rebounds in the Lady Toppers’ 75-56 win over Evansville in the consolation game of the Women’s National Invitation Tournament on Friday. “Charlotte has just been unbelievable,” coach Mary Taylor Cowles said. “Defensively, overall she has done a nice job. She has just found herself in the right position.” Marshall has improved her rebounding this season. Before the start of the season she pulled down more than 10 rebounds just five times in her career. She has now done that in all three games this season. She is averaging 11.3 rebounds per contest for the Lady Toppers (2-1). “I can rebound with pretty much anybody as long as I put my mind to it,” Marshall said.

SEE REBOUND, PAGE 9

MEN’S BASKETBALL



RYAN STONE/HERALD

Senior guard Courtney Lee falls after hitting a Murray State player mid-shot during Saturday’s game. Western beat Murray State University 87-63.

Defensive game plan helps in win

DAVID HARTEN
Herald reporter

This season, one of the Toppers’ mantras has been 94/40 – guarding an opponent across all 94 feet of hardwood for all 40 minutes in a game. In the past two games, this creed has held true. A mix of full-court pressure and stifling man-to-man defense helped the Toppers’ (3-0) force Murray State (1-1) into 27 turnovers in Western’s 87-63 victory on Saturday afternoon in the BB&T Classic in Diddle Arena. “We’re never letting up on nobody, regardless of what the score is,” senior guard Tyrone Brazelton said of the defensive pressure. “We all brought it to defense this summer and we’re just going to build off that.” It was their second consecutive game of forcing at least 25 turnovers. They squeezed 29 takeaways out of Kentucky Wesleyan in last Tuesday’s 88-67 win.

SEE DEFENSIVE, PAGE 9